Roomba

...smart
...simple
...clean

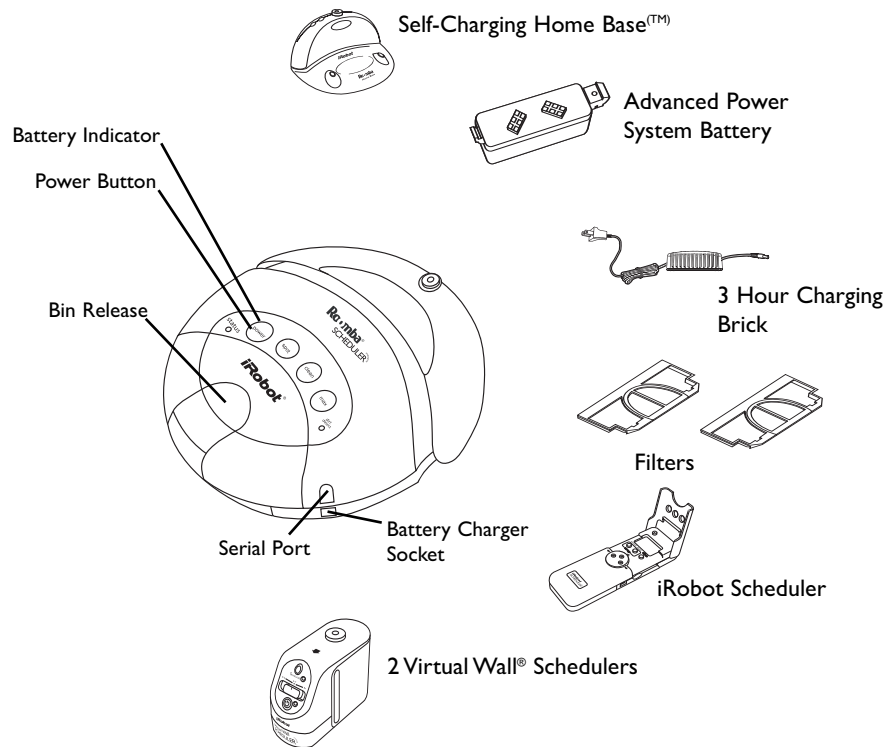# User Manual

Model 4230

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Self-Charging Home Base(TM)

Advanced Power System Battery

Battery Indicator

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3 Hour Charging Brick

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Contact points for drive-on-charger

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Dirt Detect Sensors

Vacuum Inlet

Flexible Brush

Brush Bearings (yellow)

Main Brush

Brush Guard Release Tabs
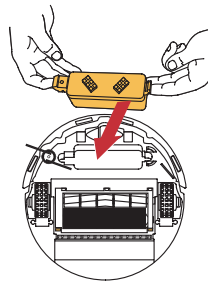
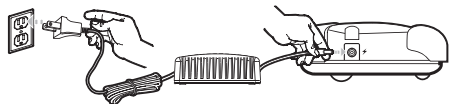Remove and clean the brushes and bearings regularly to ensure optimal cleaning performance. See pg.16

Charging Roomba

You need to charge Roomba before cleaning for the first time.

❶ Place APS battery into Roomba Robotic Floorvac. Press down on both ends.

❷ Plug the charger directly into Roomba or place Roomba on the Home Base while the Base is plugged in. **(See page 20)**

Color of Battery Indicator	Battery Status
Pulsing Amber	Charging
Green	Fully Charged
Amber	Partially Discharged
Red	Almost Fully Discharged
Flashing Red	Fully Discharged

❸ Charge for 3 hours.

❹ Power light will turn solid green to indicate a full charge.

❺ Unplug the charger and press clean or just press clean if Roomba is on the Home Base.

❻ Roomba will run for up to 120 minutes on hard floors. Run times may vary based on floor surface.

For best battery performance, always keep Roomba plugged in or on the Home Base when not in use.

Cleaning with Roomba

Cleaning Pattern
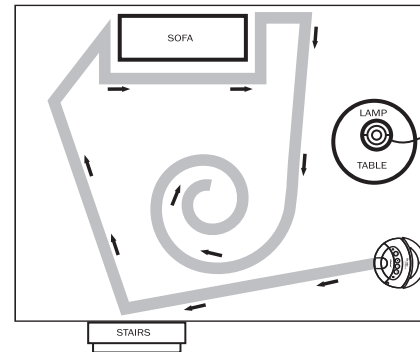
Before cleaning with Roomba, clear the floor of loose objects. If you don't vacuum over it, don't use Roomba over it (e.g., rug tassels, power and blind cords).

Roomba will clean based on the cleaning mode you select. Roomba has four cleaning modes:

Clean mode - Roomba automatically calculates the room size and adjusts its cleaning time appropriately. Roomba may clean for up to 60 minutes.

Max mode - Roomba will run until its battery is nearly depleted, up to 120 minutes and will then return to the Home Base.

Spot mode - Roomba will spiral approximately 3 feet in diameter and then spiral back to where it started, intensly cleaning a localized area.

Scheduled Cleaning Mode - When iRobot Roomba receives a cleaning time from Scheduler, Roomba enters Scheduled Cleaning Mode. When Roomba is in Scheduled Cleaning Mode, the Status light will blink amber. Roomba will leave it's Home Base at the specified time, clean for up to 60 minutes, and return to the Home Base to recharge at the end of the cleaning cycle.

Sensor   Sensor
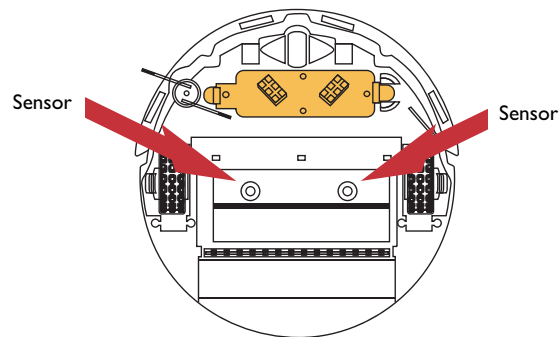
Dirt Detect Mode

Roomba features the ability to clean more intensly in dirty areas. When Roomba finds a particularly dirty area you will see the blue Dirt Detect light come on and Roomba will change its cleaning pattern.

Roomba uses two sensors to recognize the dirtiest areas. To ensure optimal performance, you may want to periodically wipe the sensors with a dry cloth. Roomba will sense heavy debris like pepper, sand, and rice. Roomba will not sense pet hair or dust, but will pick them up.

Mission Status:

At the end of a cleaning mission, Roomba will tell you if it has successfully completed its mission.
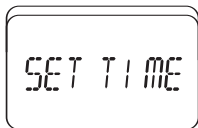
Roomba Stops for 3 reasons

Mission Complete

Green

Mission Abandoned

Yellow

Battery Depleted

Red

Yellow
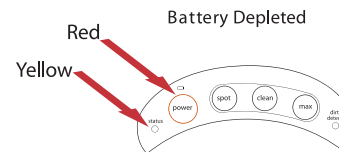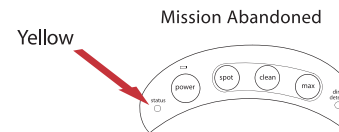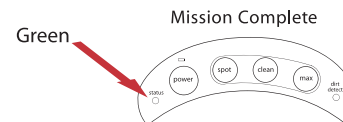
If Roomba's mission is abandoned, always make sure the brushes and bearings are clean.
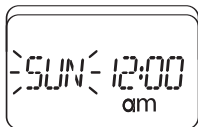
Setting the Time

To schedule Roomba to clean, use iRobot Scheduler. You need to set the time before using Scheduler for the first time.

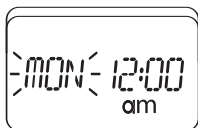**1** Open the front cover of Scheduler. The display will turn red and say "SET TIME".

SET TIME

2 Press **New/Save** and **Delete** simultaneously. The display will change to "SUN 12:00".

SUN 12:00
am

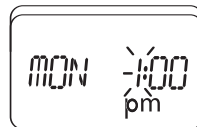**3** Press ✚ to change the day.

MON 12:00
am

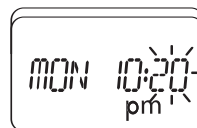**4** Press ➡ to navigate to the hour on the display.

5 Press ✚ to change the hour. To toggle AM/PM, simply scroll past 12:00.

MON 1:00
pm

6 Press ➡ to navigate to the minute on the display.

7 Press ✚ to change the minute. Hold ✚ to scroll quickly.
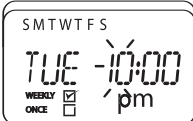
MON 10:20
pm

8 Press **New/Save** to save. After you have set the time, it will flash 3 times to indicate the time has been saved. Close the cover of Scheduler to verify that the correct time has been set.

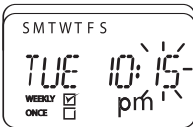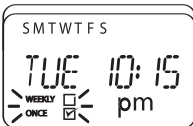NEW/SAVE   DELETE   SEND ALL

SET TIME

Setting Schedules

Roomba can be scheduled once per day, up to seven times per week.
To schedule iRobot Roomba to clean:

1 — Open Scheduler's cover to enter Scheduler mode.

SHOW
← →

2 — NEW/SAVE DELETE SEND ALL SET TIME — Press **New/Save** to begin setting a schedule.

3 — SMTWTFS TUE 12:00 WEEKLY ONCE am — Press ✚ to select the day of the week.

4 — Press ➡ to navigate to the hour field.

5 — SMTWTFS TUE 10:00 WEEKLY ONCE pm — Press ✚ to schedule the hour. To toggle AM/PM, simply scroll past 12:00.

Setting Schedules

6 — Press ➡ to navigate to the minute field.

7 — SMTWTFS TUE 10:15 WEEKLY ONCE pm — Press ✚ to schedule the minute.

8 — Press ➡ to navigate to the Once/Weekly field.

9 — SMTWTFS TUE 10:15 WEEKLY ONCE pm — Press ✚ to choose Once or Weekly. Choose Weekly if you want Roomba to clean on the same day and at the same time every week.

10 — NEW/SAVE DELETE SEND ALL SET TIME — Press **New/Save** once to save the schedule. The LCD will flash 3 times to indicate that the schedule has been set in Scheduler.

You are ready to send the schedule to Roomba and the Virtual Wall Schedulers.

Sending Schedules

After setting a cleaning time, you need to send the schedule to iRobot Roomba.
To send a schedule to your Roomba:

1 Power on Roomba. Make sure all Virtual Walls are off when using iRobot Scheduler, and that Roomba is 8 feet away from the Home Base **OR** that Roomba is completely on the Home Base and both LEDs are on.
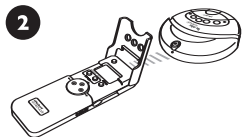
2 Open Scheduler's cover, point Scheduler at Roomba and press Send All. The 📡 image will flash to indicate Scheduler is sending code. Roomba will play a song to indicate the schedule is received and the Status light will begin blinking.
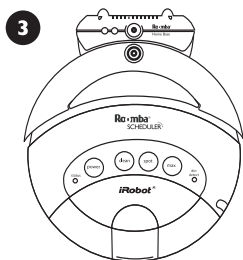
3 Make sure Roomba is on the Home Base or in the center of the area you want to clean. Roomba will clean at the time you have scheduled.
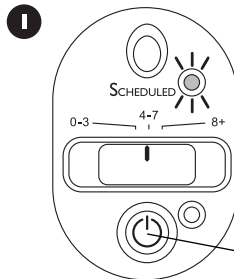
Roomba's Status light will blink amber to indicate that Roomba is scheduled to clean.

iRobot Scheduler, Virtual Walls, and Home Base all operate using invisible infra red beams. If used in the same area, Roomba may see multiple infra red signals and not respond to commands.
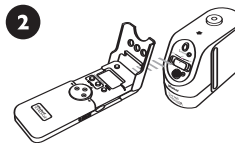
Sending Schedules

To send a schedule to your Virtual Walls:

1 Press and hold the power button on the Virtual Wall Scheduler until the Scheduled light turns on.

SCHEDULED

0-3   4-7   8+

Power Button

2 Point Scheduler at each Virtual Wall and press **Send All** to send the schedule. The 📡 image will flash to indicate the Scheduler is sending the schedule.
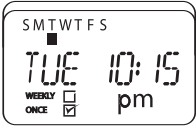
3 The Virtual Wall's Scheduled light will blink indicating that the wall is scheduled to automatically turn on at the time you programmed.

You can clear the schedule from the Virtual Wall Schedulers by removing the batteries from the Virtual Walls, or by deleting all cleaning times from the remote and re-sending the clear schedule to the Virtual Wall Schedulers.
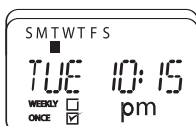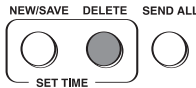
Changing Schedules

1 Open the cover of iRobot Scheduler.

2 The display will say "SHOW ⬅ ➡ ".

SHOW
⬅   ➡

3 Scroll through the schedules using ⬅ and ➡ until you find the schedule you want to change.

S M T W T F S

TUE 10:15

WEEKLY ☐
ONCE ☑   pm

4 Press **New/Save** when the remote is displaying the schedule you want to change.

5 Navigate to the field you want to change using the ⬅ and ➡ buttons and use the ✚ to change the time, day, or frequency.

6 NEW/SAVE   DELETE   SEND ALL   Press **New/Save** to save the new time.

SET TIME

7 Send the new schedule to Roomba and the Virtual Walls. **See page 12 for details**.
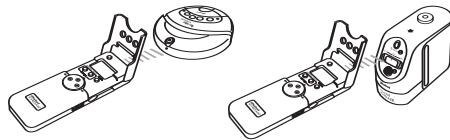
Deleting Schedules

1 Open the cover of the iRobot Scheduler.

2 The display will say "SHOW ⬅ ➡ " to indicate a schedule is set.

SHOW
⬅   ➡

3 Scroll through the schedules using ⬅ and ➡ until you find the schedule you want to delete.

S M T W T F S

TUE 10:15

WEEKLY ☐
ONCE ☑   pm

4 NEW/SAVE   DELETE   SEND ALL   Press **Delete** to clear the schedule.

SET TIME

5 Send the new schedule to Roomba and the Virtual Walls. **See page 12 for details**.
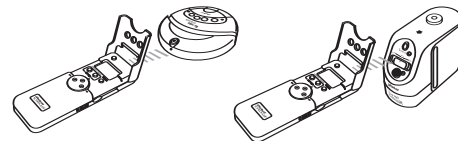
You also can clear all cleaning schedules from Roomba by simply removing Roomba's battery.

There are a few things you can do to keep Roomba running at peak performance.

1 Empty the bin over trash barrel after each use.
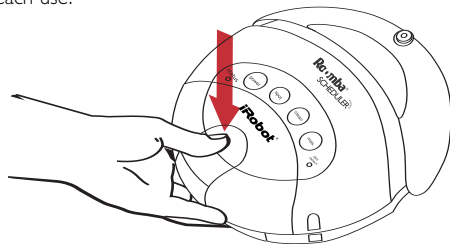
2 Remove and clean the brushes every 5 uses.
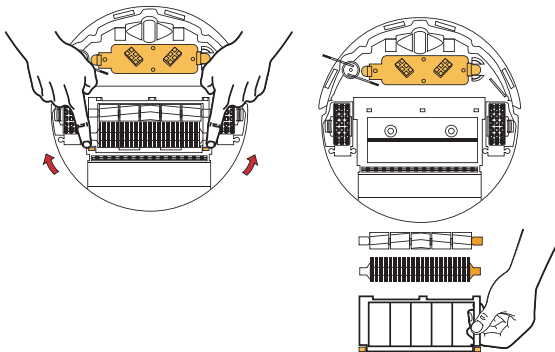
3 Empty the filter compartment after each use. You also should periodically change Roomba's filter.

Dispose

Keep

Cliff Sensors
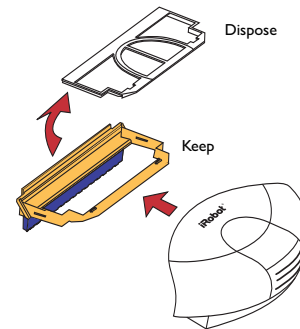
4 Inspect & clean sensors.
(when you clean brushes)

5 Inspect the vacuum inlet and clean debris as needed.
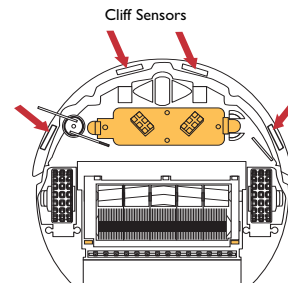
Periodically clean the sensors with cotton swabs or compressed air.

Virtual Wall

Virtual Walls create a keyhole–shaped area that iRobot Roomba will not enter. Virtual Walls are great for keeping Roomba in one room, or away from cords and other spots you don't want Roomba to clean.

You can program Virtual Wall Schedulers to turn on at the same time as Roomba. **See page 13 for details**.

Virtual Walls will automatically shut off after approximately 100 minutes in scheduled mode and 130 minutes in standard mode.

You can set Virtual Walls to cover areas up to 13 feet wide.

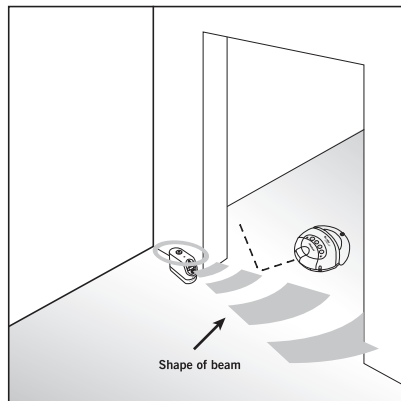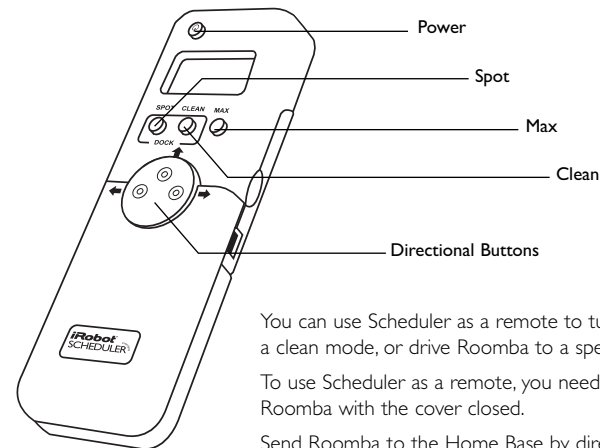**Shape of beam**

Virtual Walls create an infrared signal similar to that of the Home Base and iRobot Roomba Remote. **DO NOT** set up Virtual Walls near the Home Base or iRobot Roomba will be confused by multiple IR signals and not dock.

iRobot Scheduler

Power

Spot

Max

Clean

Directional Buttons

You can use Scheduler as a remote to turn Roomba on, activate a clean mode, or drive Roomba to a specific location.

To use Scheduler as a remote, you need to point it directly at Roomba with the cover closed.

Send Roomba to the Home Base by directin Roomba in the front of the Home Base with the remote. Roomba will see the Home Base and return automatically. You can also tell Roomba to look for the Home Base by pressing Spot and Clean simultaneously.

To drive forward press and hold the up button, to stop release the button. To rotate Roomba, use the ⬅ ➡ buttons.

iRobot Scheduler, Virtual Walls, and Home Base all operate using invisible infra red beams. If used in the same area, Roomba may see multiple infra red signals and not respond to commands. Make sure all Virtual Walls are off when using iRobot Scheduler, and that Roomba is 8 feet away from the Home Base **OR** that Roomba is completely on the Home Base and both LEDs are on.
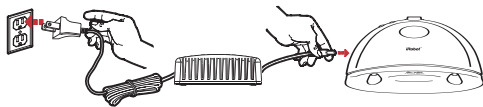
Home Base

Roomba will return to the Home Base at the end of a cleaning cycle or when its battery is running low. Roomba needs to find the infrared signal of the Home Base in order to return.

Always keep the Home Base plugged in.

Be sure to keep your Home Base on a hard level surface and in an area where Roomba has a clear path to the dock so Roomba can return at the end of a cleaning cycle.

To manually dock Roomba, place it within 5 feet of the Home Base and press Spot and Clean simultaneously, or just drive Roomba near the Home Base with the remote, Roomba will dock automatically.

The Roomba Remote, Virtual Wall, and Home Base all operate using an invisible infra red technology. If they are all used in the same area, Roomba may see multiple infra red signals and not operate. Roomba WILL NOT dock if you have a Virtual Wall near the Home Base.

Ideal Home Base setup

CHAIR

TABLE

STAIRS

AREA RUG
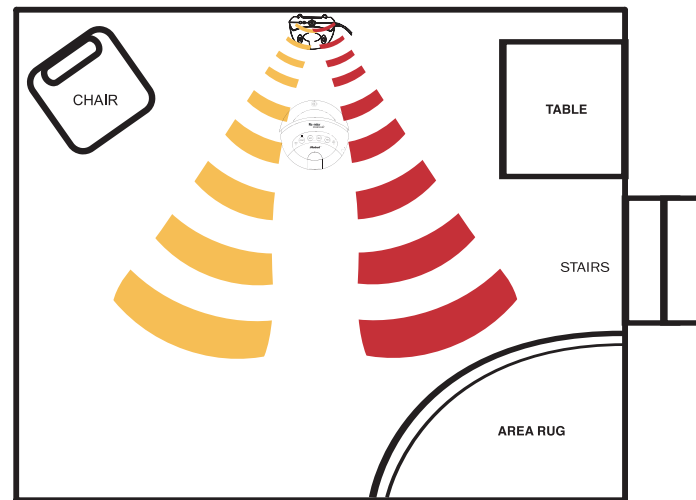
When placing Roomba on the Home Base, both green LED's on the base must be illuminated or Roomba will not charge.

What can I do if Roomba's battery does not seem to be charging?
If Roomba's battery is not charging, you should first make sure it is properly seated in Roomba. When you insert the battery, you should hear two clicks. Then confirm that the green light on the charging "brick" is a solid green and that the power indicator light is pulsing. If Roomba is not charging on the Home Base, try charging Roomba by plugging the charger directly into the robot.. If this does not work, call customer service at 877-855-8593.

What should I do if Roomba repeatedly starts and stops, or just spins in place?
If Roomba is repeatedly starting and stopping, or just spinning in place, you may have a blocked cliff sensor. Try cleaning the cliff sensors, located under the bumper, with a Q-tip or compressed air. You also should remove and clean Roomba's brushes and brush bearings.

What can I do if Roomba is cleaning longer than I'd like in a particular room?
Roomba automatically calculates room size and run time based on a number of factors. Roomba will clean for longer in rooms with more debris and furniture. Roomba also spends a little bit longer cleaning rugs than hard floors. In an empty 8x10 room with hard floors, Roomba will clean for approximately 20 minutes. Removing obstacles from a room will decrease the amount of time Roomba needs to spend in a room.

What can I do to help Roomba get back to the Home Base?
The Home Base creates an infrared "beam" that Roomba needs to find in order to return successfully. You should make sure that the Home Base is plugged in, the power light is on, and the base is on a flat, level surface. Do not use any Virtual Walls near the Home Base, the Virtual Walls use an infrared signal similar to that of the Home Base that may prevent Roomba from successfuly docking. If you have a particularly large home, Roomba may have trouble finding the Home Base at the end of a cleaning cycle. If it does, try repositioning the Home Base.

What should I do if Roomba does not respond to Scheduler commands?
When sending schedules to Roomba, make sure that Roomba is 8 feet away from the Home Base OR that Roomba is completely on the Home Base and that both Home Base lights are on. Also, make sure that any Virtual Walls in the area are turned off. Finally, when using Scheduler, point it at Roomba and make sure that the black window on the top of Scheduler is not blocked by the cover or any other obstacles.

How do I adjust LCD contrast?
When Scheduler's cover is open, press **Delete** and **Send All** simultaneously. The screen will read "LCD 21". To adjust the LCD contrast, press ⬅ or ➡ . Press **New/Save** to save the setting.

How do I turn Scheduler off?
Scheduler does not need to be turned off. The power button on Scheduler is for turning the robot on and off.

My robot stopped blinking its status light and lost its schedule, is something wrong?
Occasionally, Roomba may receive a static charge from carpets or hard floors, which can, in rare cases, cause Roomba to lose its schedule. Re-send the schedule to Roomba to resolve the problem **(see page 12)**.

The Roomba Robotic Floorvac is easy to use, but under the hood it's a complex robot. We're Roboticists, your retailers are not. If you have questions or comments, we're anxious to help, please visit us at
www.irobot.com
or
call 877-855-8593

Version: 4230-V1